

RECOGNIZING KINGSTON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kingston Elementary School of Cadet, Missouri for being recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School in 2018, a distinction bestowed upon only 349 public and private schools across the country.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. This award affirms Kingston Elementary School's hard work in creating an atmosphere for educational attainment that is recognized as a symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

Built upon the core values of encouraging learning, inspiring pride, dreaming boldly, and supporting others, Kingston Elementary created a community of learners who strive for success and work together to proudly achieve their goals. This school fosters an environment that prioritizes education and safety in the school community, one achieved through collaboration between students, educators, and parents. Led by Principal Jenny Boyster and Assistant Principal Marlene King, Kingston Elementary is an inspiration and a model for schools still striving for excellence.

On behalf of the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri, it is my great privilege to congratulate the entire Kingston Elementary School community for this remarkable achievement.

RECOGNIZING THE 136TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE HOTEL ROANOKE
& CONFERENCE CENTER

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to recognize a National Historic Landmark located in my hometown of Roanoke, Virginia in the Sixth Congressional District. The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center stands at the heart of Roanoke's downtown, on a hill in the Gainsboro neighborhood where it has been located for 136 years.

Roanoke was founded as the confluence of two railroads. The Norfolk and Western Railway established the city as its hub. The N&W—now Norfolk Southern—constructed the Hotel Roanoke and opened it on Christmas Day 1882. Since then, it has welcomed men, women, and children from all walks of life to enjoy the hotel's lodging, its amenities—including its Southern cuisine, like its famous peanut soup—and just the chance to spend time in one of the city's cultural centers.

Regrettably, due to declining interest in maintaining the historic structure, the Hotel Roanoke closed on November 30, 1989. The contents of the hotel were even sold to interested buyers. Fortunately, thanks to an agreement with Virginia Tech and the desire of

community leaders to redevelop the dilapidated structure, more than 2,800 people and businesses pledged the funds needed to help the Renew Roanoke effort, which raised \$8 million to save the hotel from demolition.

In a partnership that included the Virginia Tech Real Estate Foundation and the City of Roanoke, the completely renovated Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center opened in April 1995. The city built a pedestrian bridge to connect the facility to the central business district, a vital connection that has contributed heavily to the rebirth of Roanoke's downtown. It's estimated in the 23 years since its reopening, the hotel and conference center has had a \$558 million economic impact and has led to hundreds of millions of dollars in additional investments by a wide variety of housing interests, businesses, restaurants, and cultural amenities.

Affiliated as a Doubletree hotel from its reopening, the Hotel Roanoke & Conference recently converted to Hilton's Curio Collection. It's the latest update to take the structure known for its Tudor-style construction into a new role in Roanoke's growth. I've been blessed to enjoy countless happy occasions with family members and friends at "the Grand Old Lady on the Hill." The Hotel Roanoke's 136th anniversary is just a week away. It's a fine time to celebrate not only the Christmas holidays but the contributions made by the Hotel Roanoke to the region's history and its very promising future.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO
NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION
ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 1051 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (P.L. 115-232), I withdraw the appointment of November 13, 2018, and I appoint the following individual to the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence:

Mr. Andrew R. Jassy, Seattle, Washington.

HONORING CLINTON LORENZ

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Clinton Lorenz for being named to the IFCA Class 3A junior All-State team.

Clinton started as a lineman for my alma mater, the Greensburg High School Pirates, as a junior. On defense, he had 37 total tackles and was a consistent force on the line of scrimmage on both sides of the ball.

I want to congratulate him on an outstanding season and for representing himself with class throughout the season. I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in congratulating Clinton for his dedication, execution, and excellence this season.

PASSAGE OF H.R. 6964, THE JUVENILE
JUSTICE REFORM ACT OF
2018

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today is a great day for our nation's youth and their communities. I would like to take a moment and reflect on the passage of H.R. 6964 as amended by the Senate, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018, a comprehensive reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (JJDP), which is now headed to the President's desk for his signature.

Last authorized in 2002, JJDP sets the federal guardrails that protect children in the custody of our state juvenile justice systems. JJDP contains four core protections for youth in state juvenile justice systems:

Jail Removal: Children in the system cannot be housed in the same facility as adult offenders, except under limited circumstances.

Sight and Sound Separation: In the limited circumstances that children are housed in the same facility as adult offenders, they must have sight and sound separation.

Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO): Children who have committed status offenses—infractions based solely on their age (e.g., underage drinking, truancy)—cannot be placed in secure detention, except under limited circumstances.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC): State systems must determine if their system has disproportionate contact with minority offenders.

These protections were created and refined over time through Congressional reauthorizations that built upon the evidence-based best practices of states. I'm proud to say that H.R. 6964 makes strides to improve each of the four core protections. The bill improves the 'Jail Removal' and 'Sight and Sound Separation' core protections by simplifying the definition of contact and phasing in sight and sound separation for youth under the age of 18 being held pretrial in adult criminal court.

It strengthens the DSO core protection by increasing the oversight required when a state uses one of the limited circumstances available in the law—the valid court order (VCO)—to detain a status offender. And the bill refines the DMC core protection to ensure that states must collect and report data on decision points in the juvenile justice system to identify where disparities occur. This is a contravention of harmful proposals offered by the current Administrator of the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

While enactment of H.R. 6964 is a good first step, I join my House Republican colleagues who championed this bill in expressing regret that the legislation in its final form does not go far enough to improve the core protections. Specifically, I am disappointed that H.R. 6964 does not eliminate the VCO exception to DSO.

The VCO exception was added to JJDP in the 1980's after a push by juvenile court judges. It is used by judges to detain repeat status offenders and juveniles who fail to appear in court. But the research suggests that the VCO exception has not been effective as a means of reducing juvenile delinquency and